

**ZBA Meeting ALL Remote Why?**

1 message

**Robert Holmes** <robertfrancisholmes@ymail.com>

Fri, Sep 24, 2021 at 6:34 AM

To: taoffice@graffon-ma.gov

Cc: koshivosk@graffon-ma.gov

Good morning,

I find it a little fishy that a major project, that will affect many in my neighborhood, is only being held remote. It seems that the Select Board can have an in person option but the rest of the meetings are being pushed off. I would like the ZBA to be held accountable and hold an in person option. I am flying home from Los Angeles for this meeting. By not offering an in-person option residents of Grafton are potentially being frozen out from participating in the process. These seems like a quick back door deal between the town and Wyman Gordon. Im from Jersey I have seen this happen before.

Using COVID to pick and choose the meetings that will be in-person is a violation of the Commonwealth. I hope that there will be an in person option, if not I will be filling a complaint with the Attorney Generals Office.

Sincerely,

Robert F Holmes  
1 Bailin Circle  
Apt #3  
North Grafton, MA 01536  
Robertfrancisholmes@ymail.com  
617-596-3823

RECEIVED TOWN CLERK  
GRAFTON, MA  
2021 OCT -1 AM 9:44



Katrina Koshivos <koshivosk@grafton-ma.gov>

**FW: [Town of Grafton MA] ZBA Meeting all remote? WHY? (Sent by Robert Holmes, Robertfrancisholmes@ymail.com)**

1 message

Evan Brassard <brassarde@grafton-ma.gov>

Fri, Sep 24, 2021 at 10:44 AM

To: Bill McCusker <billmccusker@charter.net>, Katrina Koshivos <koshivosk@grafton-ma.gov>

FYI...

Evan Brassard

Town Administrator

Town of Grafton

508-839-5335 x 1155

Website: [Grafton-ma.gov](http://Grafton-ma.gov)

Facebook: [Town of Grafton, MA](https://www.facebook.com/TownofGraftonMA)

Twitter: [@TownofGraftonMA](https://twitter.com/TownofGraftonMA)

RECEIVED TOWN CLERK  
GRAFTON, MA  
2021 OCT - 1 AM 9:44

From: Evan Brassard <brassarde@grafton-ma.gov>

Sent: Friday, September 24, 2021 10:44 AM

To: 'Robertfrancisholmes@ymail.com' <Robertfrancisholmes@ymail.com>; Select Board <selectboard@grafton-ma.gov>

Subject: RE: [Town of Grafton MA] ZBA Meeting all remote? WHY? (Sent by Robert Holmes, Robertfrancisholmes@ymail.com)

Hello Robert,

Please allow this email to serve as response to the two you sent this morning. I would like to provide one Town response rather than separate ones. For the record the second email sent to my office and the ZBA Admin this morning is as follows:

Good morning,

I find it a little fishy that a major project, that will affect many in my neighborhood, is only being held remote. It seems that the Select Board can have an in person option but the rest of the meetings are being pushed off. I would like the ZBA to be held accountable and hold an in person option. I am flying home from Los Angeles for this meeting. By not offering an in-person option residents of Grafton are potentially being frozen out from participating in the process. These seems like a quick back door deal between the town and Wyman Gordon. Im from Jersey I have seen this happen before.

Using COVID to pick and choose the meetings that will be in-person is a violation of the Commonwealth. I hope that there will be an in person option, if not I will be filling a complaint with the Attorney Generals Office.

After reading your emails I must respectfully disagree with your analysis. While the Select Board has chosen to hold hybrid meetings, the Board has not dictated any procedure to the many volunteer Boards such as the ZBA. Many Boards in Grafton have chosen to continue with remote meetings during the ongoing pandemic and maintain their ability to decide based upon their feelings of personal safety.

The Commonwealth has extended the ability of Open Meetings to be held remotely due to the rise in COVID cases and strain on the health care system. The ZBA, having decided that remote was appropriate for their committee, will hold their meeting in accordance with State law and will receive public input where appropriate. Those who choose not to participate via Zoom maintain the ability to offer comment via email or U.S. mail.

There is no back door deal with Wyman-Gordan. The property was previously sold to a developer so the correlation you are attempting to make is not accurate.

If you feel you need to file a complaint with the Attorney General's Office we understand and welcome any review or questions they may have.

Thank you,

Evan Brassard

Town Administrator

Town of Grafton

508-839-5335 x 1155

Website: [Grafton-ma.gov](http://Grafton-ma.gov)

Facebook: [Town of Grafton, MA](#)

Twitter: [@TownofGraftonMA](#)

**From:** Contact form at Town of Grafton MA <[cmsmailer@civicplus.com](mailto:cmsmailer@civicplus.com)>

**Sent:** Friday, September 24, 2021 6:27 AM

**To:** the Select Board <[selectboard@grafton-ma.gov](mailto:selectboard@grafton-ma.gov)>

**Subject:** [Town of Grafton MA] ZBA Meeting all remote? WHY? (Sent by Robert Holmes, [Robertfrancisholmes@ymail.com](mailto:Robertfrancisholmes@ymail.com))

Hello the Select Board,

Robert Holmes ([Robertfrancisholmes@ymail.com](mailto:Robertfrancisholmes@ymail.com)) has sent you a message via your contact form (<https://www.grafton-ma.gov/user/14856/contact>) at Town of Grafton MA.

If you don't want to receive such e-mails, you can change your settings at <https://www.grafton-ma.gov/user/14856/edit>.

Message:

I dont understand why the ZBA is being held completely remote when the select board offers an in person option. By letting the ZBA hold only a all zoom meeting people who don not have access to a computer will not be afforded an oppertunity to comment. Exmaple I am flying home from Los Angeles for this meeting.